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CPW Report No. 59 -- COMMUNIST CHINA (Jan. 26 - Feb. 1, 1953)

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1. (lc) Sino-Soviet Partnership:

Wuhan reported (Feb. 1) that 6,000 Kwangtung SSFA offices now had three million members. Kunming (Jan. 26) and Tsinan (Jan. 30) stressed the enthusiasm with which Vienna Peace Conference delegates greeted Kuo Mo-jo and Soong Ching-ling, and the popularity of the Chinese "peace film," "Ho Ping Wan Shui."

Tsinan announced (Jan. 30) that Tsingtao students and teachers were coming to Tsinan for Russian studies, and that during the winter vacation Shantung University teachers and students would "study Russian to better carry out their duties." Sian (Jan. 29) and Chengte (Jan. 30) reported cadres, including Sinkiang minority groups, busy with study of Malenkov's report.

Peking (Jan. 20) broadcast a talk sulogizing Soviet expert Shenkov, who trained Chinese-Changchun Railway technicians. Sian stated (Jan. 27) that Soviet expert Antonev had found that low cotton yields in Chingwei, Shensi, resulted from poor pest control and poor farming methods. Kunming announced (Jan. 28) that Soviet experts and North China scientists had made an "artificial rain machine" to eject 65 metric tons of water an hour and irrigate 375 mou of land.

Peking asserted in numeral code (Jan. 26) that Shanghai City Hospital doctors had succeeded with the Soviet blood transfusion method, and added (Jan. 27) that Tientsin hospital doctors had cured 400 patients through the Soviet Filatev Method, and now would teach the techniques to all medical personnel.

Peking (Jan. 27) broadcast a talk on adoption of Soviet "directional charts for rhythmic production" in construction work, and added that the China College of Mining was training coal-mining technicians to use progressive Soviet techniques. Shanghaf claimed (Jan. 29) that Nanking's Yungli Factory had greatly improved its efficiency through Soviet methods.

2. (2a) War Burdens:

Peking declared in numeral code (Jan. 26) that although women were important farm producers, and leaders in some sections, their participation still was not sufficiently promoted. In many areas they received children's wages, were subject to dictates of in-laws, had no political rights and too many home responsibilities. The attitude that there was "plenty of labor, and therefore no need for women in the fields" must be broken down, and more day nurseries set up. Kunming said (Jan. 28) that the Yunnan Women's Conference decided to encourage participation in farming, implement the marriage law, and strive for sexual equality.

Peking reported (Jan. 27) that China's first women's geological survey team, 31 Chinese and Korean women, started work for the Ministry of Heavy Industry last August after indoctrination.

Shanghai announced (Jan. 27) that the Anhwei chairman asked the People's Assembly to intensify the RAAK drive and implement preferential treatment. Shanghai (Jan. 30) announced a series of East China RAAK talks by Party and Government cadres. Tsinan reported (Jan. 30) that Shantung agricultural models had promised to supply the Chinese Volunteers with men, food, and money.

3. (2b) New Taxes:

Chengte announced (Jan. 29) that local business enterprises sent delegates to study the new business tax law, which would force businessmen to put revenue stamps on sales slips and pay commodity taxes according to schedules. The businessmen were quoted as "thanking the Government" and expressing pleasure in cooperating.

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4. (2c) Trade Problems:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Jan. 26) that the American embargo had caused a serious deterioration in Southeast Asia economy. Hangehow reported (Jan. 27) that Tungnam Soap Works cadres were accused of mismanagement for producing an excess of 30,000 boxes of soap and forcing the factory to close for a month. Chungking stated (Feb. 1) that the Chengtu-Chungking Railway had raised rates 40 percent to cut losses.

5. (3a) Counterrevolutionary Indications:

Chengte announced (Jan. 29) that the Jehol Government had demanded greater fire precautions since the serious Chengte Textile Mill fire, and destruction of a cooperative and loss of large stocks of cotton in a textile mill fire in Chaoyang Hsien.

Shanghai reported (Jan. 26) that Chekiang Party action with militiamen's increased political consciousness had reinstituted the system of sentries along highways and patrols throughout the countryside. Sian said (Jan. 28) that the Northwest Administrative Committee met to discuss public security work and investigate deaths from collapse of an irrigation structure. Kunming stated (Jan. 28) that local members had withdrawn from the reactionary Ikuantao sect since its true nature was revealed.

6. (3a) Strengthening Party Controls:

Peking (Jan. 27) reported that the JEN MIN JIH PAO had called for more sparetime cadre schools "to increase their theoretical knowledge." Chinchow announced (Jan. 28) that the Chin Hsien, Liaosi, Party committee was seeking to "rectify the disorder" in rural cadre training.

Chinchow added (Jan. 30) that the People's Procurator's Office had set up boxes for anonymous and confidential reports on misbehavior of cadres. Pacting said (Jan. 29) that 612 cadres attended a Hopei Party Committee conference "to eliminate bureaucracy and dictatorialism" from Party administration.

Shanghai reported (Jan. 26) that the local Party committee instructed cadres to study the case of Huang I-feng "as a warning." Wuhsi (Jan. 26) quoted the CHIEH FANG JIH PAO as indorsing Huang's expulsion and demanding that the Party clear itself of "such unhealthy elements." Hofei said (Jan. 29) that the Tangtu, Anhwei, Party committee dismissed cadre Hei Shou-chai for "suppressing criticism" and "covering up for corrupt cadres under him."

7. (3a) Basic Construction:

Chinchow (Jan. 30) reported continued labor registration for basic construction, with 25,000 Liaosi workers organized into 22 engineering companies. Peking announced in numeral code (Jan. 26) that Shanghai's Tunchi University, after reorganization, would be the Nation's chief training school for technicians.

Hangchow announced (Jan. 29) a local Party committee conference to promote basic construction by fighting bureaucracy. Wuhan reported (Jan. 29) an industrial reorganization by the Kwangtung Finance and Economics Committee, with 34 plants closed, 31 combined, and operations reduced in 15.

Peking charged in numeral code (Jan. 30) that factory designs for Tsitsihar showed a "lack of basic knowledge of designing" and weak worker cooperation. In the Northwest most of the time and material had been wasted through poor planning, low efficiency, and cadre "sensitiveness to criticism." Some Penchi Iron and

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Coal Company sections refused to release personnel, while others assigned men to the wrong jobs, making a chemical engineer a secretary and an electrical engineer an educational director.

8. (3a) Bureaucratic Weaknesses:

Peking reported (Jan. 26) that in Suining Hsien, Szechwan, a surplus of supervisory personnel was causing confusion. Peking charged in numeral code (Jan. 29) that Party and Government prestige suffered a heavy blow in Tsangshan Hsien, Shantung, when cadres forced farmers to destroy their cotton and plant another strain, with losses affecting 1,360 households.

Shanghai reported (Jan. 28) that the East China Administrative Committee had charged various organs with reckless spending at the year's end. Hangchow, Fukien, South Kiangsu, and Chekiang offices wasted billions of yuan on unnecessary orders for typewriters, calculating machines, books, a dredger, and excessive supplies of penicillin tablets. Chungking said (Jan. 29) that the Hsiuning Hsien, Szechwan, Party committee opened offices to aid rural cadres, who were disorganized and confused.

9. (3b) Resistance to Change:

Peking (Feb. 1) quoted the JIN MIN JIH PAO in criticizing backward cadres for failure to promote the Marriage Law, end demanding elimination of "bride bartering," unequal treatment of women, and interference with free marriage. Hofei (Jan. 28) related how a cadre had his secretary, a Youth Corps member and cadre school graduate, jailed for 14 months because she refused to marry him. Hofei reported (Jan. 30) that She Hsien, Anhwei, and She Hsien Hospital cadres had interfered in the marriage of a nurse, causing her to commit suicide.

Hangchow (Jan. 26) reported the owner of a firewood shop jailed for a year for unauthorized felling of trees. Tsinan stated (Jan. 28) that Tenghsien Special District, Shantung, cadres had been censured for laxity in promoting the sanitation drive. Shanghai reported (Jan. 28) that a Wuhsi China Coal Company cadre took revenge on his employee for exposing his malpractices.

10. (3e) Agricultural Remolding:

Peking announced in numeral code (Jan. 26) that 50,000 mutual aid team leaders would be trained in Kiangsi this year, with the promotion of mutual aid teams and cooperatives the Party Committee's chief target. Tihua reported (Jan. 28) that a million people, 75 percent of the farm households, were participating in Sinkiang mutual aid teams.

Chengte stated (Jan. 29) that Jehol mutual aid teams needed strengthening. Many were temporary and poorly organized. Poor leadership allowed some team members to get rich. Meetings were planned to show members the real meaning of the mutual aid team movement.

11. (4) American Aggression:

Peking said (Jan. 30) that Eisenhower had appointed a committee on information activities to oppose the USSR and People's Democracies.

Peking asserted in numeral code (Jan. 29) that the so-called general elections in French-occupied Vietnam had been ordered upon American instructions. Peking said (Feb. 1) that large numbers of American military men were urging Pakistan to join a Middle East pact, and some high naval officers had left Karachi for Kabul, Afghanistan.

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12. (4) Border Minorities:

Peking reported in numeral code (Jan. 31) that at the Tai Autonomous Regional Conference in southwestern Yunnan, Tai tribesmen promised to destroy remnant elements of Chiang reactionaries and resist orders of American imperialists and their agents. Tihua stated (Jan. 26) that many Sinkiang peasants struggled against landlords during land reform.

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